

REMARKS

The office action of September 26, 2007, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-5 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Braun et al. in view of the patent to Reba et al.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, they have been discussed at length in prior amendments and those comments are incorporated herein by reference to avoid redundancy. The following additional comments are provided.

The Examiner combined Braun et al. with Reba et al. in determining that claims 1-5 would be unpatentable over such a

combination. Applicant respectfully submits that neither of these references, nor their combination, teach a device for deflecting sections of strip, as in the presently claimed invention. The foil element 152 of Reba et al. is configured so that the distance between the convex sides of the foil initially increase in the conveyance direction, and then decreases in the conveyance direction (see Fig. 7 of Reba et al.). Thus, there is no teaching of a switch as in the present invention where the distance between the convex sides of the switch only increases in the conveyance direction. Furthermore, there is no motivation for leaving off the section of decreasing distance between the convex sides of the Reba et al. foil to arrive at the present invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.


Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Klaus P. Stoffel

Reg. No. 31,668

For: Friedrich Kueffner

Reg. No. 29,482

317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910

New York, New York 10017

(212) 986-3114

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 25, 2008.

By: 
Klaus P. Stoffel

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